

Please add the following new claim:

R126 45
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A method of altering the flux of water across an epithelial cell presenting first and second spaced apart surfaces, said method comprising the steps of:

- B²
- a. providing a peptide capable of forming a channel assembly for transport of anions through said epithelial cell, said peptide having the sequence of SEQ ID NO. 13; and
 - b. contacting said peptide with said first surface of said epithelial cell, and causing said peptide to alter the flux of water across said cell surface.

And ~~the~~ c1